

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 00262 111351Z

44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-10 IO-11 SAI-01 OMB-01

MC-02 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 /092 W
----- 026922

O R 111239Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7382

INFO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL DOUALA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 0262

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BGEN, MILI, CM, GB

SUBJ: SEIZURE OF VESSELS IN PORT GENTIL

REF: STATE 32809 (NOTAL)

1. AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED SEIZED SHIPMENT MORNING FEB.
11 WITH BOTH GENERMERIE CHIEF OF STAFF AND DEPUTY
PRIMIN (LATTER ACTING HEAD OF GOG IN ABSENCE PRESIDENT
AND PRIMIN).
2. BOTH MEN REPORTED THAT CARGO HAD BEEN IMPOUNDED ON
ORDERS FROM PRESIDENT BONGO IN PARIS, AND COULD ONLY
BE RELEASED ON RECEIPT FURTHER ORDERS FROM SAME SOURCE.
AMBASSADOR ASKED BOTH MEN TO SSURE PRESIDENT THAT
CARGO WAS DULY LICENSED SHIPMENT OF MILITARY MATERIAL
TO GURC, AND TO REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FROM PRESIDENT
FOR RELEASE OF SHIPMENT.
3. PRIMIN HJDE FURTHER POINT THAT THIS NOW SEEMED
TO BE PRIMARILY BETWEEN GOG AND GURC, AND USG NO
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PAGE 02 LIBREV 00262 111351Z

LONGER DIRECTLY INVOLVED,A AMBASSADOR MADE POINT

THAT US SHIPPER WAS UNDERSTANDABLY CONCERNED AT HIS INABILITY TO EFFECT DELIVERY IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONTRACT, AND THIS WAS GROUNDS FOR OUR PLAYING AN OFFICIAL ROLE.

4. SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH PORT COMMANDANT AT PORT GENTIL AND WITH SOCOPAO CONFIRMED THAT BOTH ERIKA SHULTE AND DABEMEY RECEIVED GREEN LIGHT TO DEPART PORT GENTIL AND SAILED EVENING FEB. 10.

5. FOR YAOUNDE AND DOUALA: IN LIGHT SUGGESTION BY VICE PRIMIN MIGOLET THAT ISSUE NOW ESSENTIALLY BETWEEN GOG AND GURC, YOU MAY WISH TO SUGGEST TO CAMEROONIAN AUTHORITIES THAT THEY ASK PRESIDENT BONGO THROUGH THEIR CHANNELS TO RELEASE CARGO FOR ONWARD SHIPMENT. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS, BONGO EXPECTED REMAIN IN PARIS UNTIL END OF THIS WEEK, AND PRESUMABLY CAN BE CONTACTED THROUGH GABONESE EIASSEY THERE. STEIGMAN

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